

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for holding and retaining a vehicle to be lifted comprising at least two parallel transverse assemblies, each transverse assembly comprising:

a) a treadway comprising:

i) two spaced apart parallel crossbeams with each said crossbeam having a first end, a second end, a top side and a bottom side;

ii) a pair of end plates with one said end plate fastened to said first ends of said crossbeams and the other said end plate fastened to said second ends of said crossbeams to maintain a constant spaced apart relation thereof while forming a solid connection between the two crossbeams;

iii) a transverse channel formed by the space between said crossbeams; and

b) a pair of opposing frame anchor assemblies slidably disposed within said transverse channel and resting on said top sides of said crossbeams and extending ~~substantially thereabove from said transverse channel~~ thereby enabling said frame anchor assemblies to be selectively positioned along the longitudinal axis of said crossbeams to accommodate the width of the frame of the vehicle to be raised and to bear the weight thereof, wherein each said frame anchor assembly comprises:

a) a frame anchor having a width conforming with said transverse channel for the partial insertion therein with minimal play between said crossbeams while a substantial portion extends vertically beyond said top sides of said crossbeams;

b) a substantially horizontal bearing plate integral with said frame anchor wherein said bearing plate is seated on said top sides of said crossbeams to maintain the vertical position of said frame anchor assembly even when under a load;

c) a cantilevered bracket extending perpendicularly from a central portion of said

frame anchor and medially oriented in regard to said treadway for bearing the underside of the frame of the vehicle to be raised while the portion of said frame anchor extending thereabove is in physical contact with the peripheral side of the vehicle frame; and

d) means for securing said frame anchor assembly to prevent the lateral movement thereof along the longitudinal axis of said treadway

e) a substantially L-shaped frame anchor insert having a lower horizontal portion to reside within said transverse channel and an upper vertical portion extending above said treadway; and

f) a frame anchor sleeve having a hollow interior conforming to the size and shape of said vertical portion to allow for the snug insertion therethrough.

Claims 2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for holding and retaining a vehicle to be lifted as recited in claim 3 1, wherein said bearing plate has a slotted cut-out conforming to the shape of said vertical portion of said frame anchor insert for the placement therearound as the adjacent central portion of said bearing plate is seated on the top of said horizontal portion of said frame anchor insert and welded thereto.

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for holding and retaining a vehicle to be lifted as recited in claim 3 1, wherein said frame anchor sleeve has a plurality of recesses in vertical alignment on the side opposite that with said cantilevered bracket.

7. (Original) An apparatus for holding and retaining a vehicle to be lifted as recited in claim 6, wherein said frame anchor insert has a plurality of threaded recesses in alignment with said recesses in said frame anchor sleeve.

8. (Original) An apparatus for holding and retaining a vehicle to be lifted as recited

in claim 7, further including a plurality of bolts to be inserted through said recesses of said frame anchor sleeve and said aligned threaded recesses of said frame anchor insert to retain the two components to one another.

9. (Original) An apparatus for holding and retaining a vehicle to be lifted as recited in claim 1, wherein said treadway further includes a spacer element medially positioned within said transverse channel and communicating between said crossbeams.

10. (Original) An apparatus for holding and retaining a vehicle to be lifted as recited in claim 1, wherein said end plates further include a retaining flange extending perpendicularly from the top portion thereof to rest on the frame rack to relieve pressure on the bolts to prevent them from shearing.